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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/763,216	01/26/2004	Graeme McLintock	2001P14563WOUS	6557
28204	7590	06/30/2006	EXAMINER	
SIEMENS SCHWEIZ I-44, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ALBISRIEDERSTRASSE 245 ZURICH, CH-8047 SWITZERLAND			TIMBLIN, ROBERT M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2167	

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/763,216	Applicant(s) MCLINTOCK, GRAEME	
	Examiner Robert M. Timblin	Art Unit 2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This office action corresponds to application 10/763,216 filed 1/26/2004

Claims 1-7 have been examined and are pending prosecution.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: line 33 of page 2 contains an incomplete word (i.e. 'situ')

Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: 707.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the

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applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following claims are objected to:

With respect to claims 2, 3, 5, and 7, the mentioning of “the identification data” depends on claim 1 in which this text has been deleted. Therefore these limitations lack antecedent basis.

Similarly, claim 7 is objected to for mentioning “sorting code” which is also dependent upon deleted text from claim 1 and therefore lacks antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Cordery et al.** (‘Cordery’) (US 5,682,429).

With respect to claim 1, Cordery teaches a method for automatically generating current distribution order data with the inclusion of central address directories (data center 910), which are stored in databases and are transmitted by electronic data transfer, as distribution order data, comprising the steps of:

‘locally copying a current central address directory or parts relating to a relevant area’ as a change of address database (fig. 4, 410 and describing paragraphs).

‘locally storing change instructions regarding a relative positional change for delivery points in the distribution order for a previous version of the central address directory or of the parts’ as a postal request file (col. 8 line 51-67 and fig. 6-7)

‘transferring the change instructions to the local copy of the current central address directory or parts’ (fig. 7A).

‘performing a check so as to determine whether the change instructions have already been implemented in the current address directory or whether the instructions yet to be executed’ (figure 6 and at least drawing references 706, 710, and 716 of figure 7A)

‘storing valid change instructions yet to be executed in an audit file’ as a postal request file (col. 8 line 51-67 and fig. 6-7)

‘executing the change instructions’ (fig. 7A, drawing reference 710)

With respect to claim 2 Cordery teaches ‘the identification data additionally and locally incorporate house number extensions locally’ as a delivery point code (col. 9 line 55-59).

With respect to claim 3, Cordery teaches ‘the identification data additionally and locally incorporate distinguishing remarks’ as a delivery address identifier (col. 9 line 48-55).

With respect to claim 5, Cordery teaches ‘updating the central address directory or address directory parts by transmitting only incremental changes by data transfer (drawing reference 634)

‘the changes being merged with the previously current and copied address directory or address directory part by using the identification data for each delivery point to check in the previously current address directory or address directory part whether the respective delivery point in the incremental change is already present, and if not, incorporating into the copied address directory or address directory part at the concomitantly transmitted position of the

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distribution order, and if so, moving the respective delivery point is moved to the changed position in the address directory' (figure 6).

With respect to claim 6, Cordery teaches 'the move of a delivery point is implemented by deleting said delivery point at the previous position of the address directory and re-entering it at the changed position' (drawing reference 634).

With respect to claim 7, Cordery teaches 'identifying delivery points according to identification data comprising at least the sorting code' (col. 11 line 40-51).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cordery in view of **Suzuki et al.** ('Suzuki') (US 2002/0010658 A1).

With respect to claim 4, Cordery fails to teach the limitation of incorporating distribution advice.

Suzuki, however, teaches 'incorporating distribution advice' as delivery instruction data (0054) for instructing the delivery of the merchandise..

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the present invention to combine the teachings of the cited references because the distribution advice of Suzuki would have provided Cordery's system with data for instructing the delivery of merchandise (0054).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

5,910,998

6,954,729

6,067,525

Contact Information

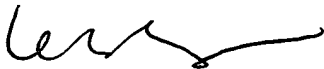
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert M. Timblin whose telephone number is 571-272-5627. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-4:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John R. Cottingham can be reached on 571-272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

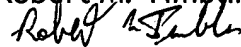
Leslie Wong



Primary Examiner

RMT

Robert M. Timblin



Patent Examiner AU 2167